Patent Claims

1. An apparatus for examination of images having an im-
    age storage device (10) which is designed to store
    image data for one or more images to be evaluated,

    a display device (22) which is designed to display
    the image data,

    an input device (23) for a subject, which is designed
    to interrogate visualization data,

    a control device (24) which connects the abovemen-
    tioned devices to one another,

    a data matching device (30) for matching image data
    and visualization data, as well as

    an evaluation device (41) for calculation of a visu-
    alization profile,

    with the visualization data comprising position data
    which is transmitted from the input device (23),

    wherein the input device (23) has a pointing appli-
    ance (24), with the pointing appliance (24) being de-
    signed such that it is moved manually by the subject
    for pointing, and the input device (23) interacting
    interactively with a marking (20) such that the posi-
    tion of the pointing appliance (24) is displayed by
    means of the marking (20) on the display device (22).

2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pointing appliance (24) is a computer mouse.

3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pointing appliance (24) is a light pointer or a light pen.

4. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein two or more input devices (23) with pointing appliances (24) are provided.

5. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the input device (23) together with the pointing appliances (24) is arranged physically separately from an evaluation module (3), and is connected to it via a data network, in particular a LAN or a WAN.

6. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the control device (24) has an event detector (28), which is designed to record the position data when a specific event occurs.

7. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the event detector (28) is designed such that the specific event is the operation of a button on the pointing appliance (24).

8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the event detector (28) is designed such that the specific event is the pointing appliance (24) being at rest.

9.   The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding
     claims, wherein a conversion module (29) is provided
     for transformation of position data from an appli-
     ance-specific coordinate system to an appliance-
5   independent coordinate system.

10. A method for examination of images, having the fol-
     lowing steps:

10   –   storage (53) of image data for an image to be
            examined, in a memory device,

     –   display (55) of the image,

15   –   determination of a position from data from an
            input device (23),

     –   evaluation (58) by matching image data and po-
            sition data, and by calculation of a visualiza-
20   tion profile (73, 74),

     wherein the determination of the position comprises
     an interrogation of position data from a pointing ap-
     pliance (24) which is moved manually by the subject,
25   and wherein a marking (20) for the position of a
     pointing appliance (24) is displayed (56) interac-
     tively.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10, distinguished by
30   interrogation of an event detector (28) for operation
     of the pointing appliance (24) and storage (56) of
     the position data on operation of the pointing appli-

ance (24) in an event-based file.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the event detector (28) evaluates button operation on the pointing appliance (24).

13. The method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein the event detector (28) monitors the movements of the pointing appliance (24) and is triggered when the pointing appliance (24) comes to rest.

14. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 13, wherein a computer mouse is used as the pointing appliance (24).

15. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 13, wherein a light pointer or a light pen is used as the pointing appliance (24).

16. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 15, wherein the input device (23) together with the pointing appliance (24) transmits the position data via a data network, in particular a LAN or WAN, to an evaluation module (3).

17. A computer program product for carrying out the method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 13.